



INDIANA *for* COMMISSION
HIGHER EDUCATION

For Immediate Release

Contact: Stan Jones, 317-464-4400 or Jeff Stanley, 317-464-4400 ext. 25

Strategic Plan to be Developed for Indiana Higher Education: Taskforce Appointed

To ensure Indiana's higher education system aligns and invests scarce state resources in a manner that achieves optimal results for Hoosiers, the Indiana Commission for Higher Education will begin work this month on a new strategic plan. Christopher Murphy, Chairman of the Indiana Commission for Higher Education, has appointed a subcommittee to lead the effort.

The Commission's Strategic Planning Taskforce will be chaired by the Honorable Jon Costas, Mayor of Valparaiso and vice chair Dr. Gerald Bepko, IUPUI Chancellor Emeritus and IU Trustee Professor and Professor of Law. Additional Commission members appointed to the Subcommittee include Dr. Fred Cate, Distinguished Professor of Law and Adjunct Professor of Informatics and Director of the Indiana University Center for Applied Cybersecurity Research, Ms. Kathryn Dale, Managing Director of Vision 2020, Ms. Marilyn Moran-Townsend, Chairman and CEO of CVC Communications-Business Storytellers, and Mr. Michael Smith, retired executive vice president and chief financial officer of Anthem, Inc.

The Commission will undertake this action in collaboration with the constituencies it serves - the Colleges and Universities, the faculty and students, and the citizens and taxpayers of Indiana. It will invite input from all interested parties especially those organizations with a special interest in or demonstrated capability in higher education including the Lumina Foundation and the Lilly Endowment. It will use the output of the Efficiency Commission, the Chartwell Study and The Spelling Commission Report.

The Taskforce will work to put forth a strategic plan for the development of Indiana's higher education system that ensures world-class education opportunities, provides the very best teaching and research, and guarantees accessible and affordable opportunities for Hoosiers. This work will define a collective mission for the state's system of higher education as well as differentiate the missions of Indiana's individual colleges and campuses.

In addition to outlining a vision and respective goals and objectives, the framework will include key institutional performance indicators and statewide measures of progress. These metrics will provide critical signposts for assessing progress in a comparative and competitive context as well as provide valuable benchmarks for progress over time.

In 2003, the Indiana Commission for Higher Education adopted *Indiana's Framework for Policy Planning Development in Higher Education* as a means of outlining key goals toward aligning the state's public higher education system to support student needs and expand economic development opportunities. Progress has been made toward realizing many of the goals established in the *2003 Policy and Planning Framework* including:

- Requiring Core 40 of all Indiana high school students and aligning Core 40 as the minimum course requirement for regular admission to Indiana's four-year public colleges and universities.
- Developing End-of-Course Assessments in key high school courses to ensure alignment to college placement expectations and decrease the need for college remediation.
- Initiating the e-Transcript initiative, an electronic delivery system of high school transcripts to college.
- Decreasing the number of remedial courses offered at Indiana's four-year public colleges.
- Expanding the community college to all 23 Ivy Tech campuses.
- Realizing 91% of the enrollment goal set to add 30,000 additional students to the Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana system by 2009.
- Initiation of a Core Transfer Library, consisting of at least 80 college courses most taken by lower division students that will transfer statewide.

In developing the new strategic plan for higher education, the Commission will engage a variety of constituencies including students, college trustees, faculty, and staff, government officials and legislators, and business and industry representatives. The public is also invited to provide input via the Commission's website at www.che.state.in.us

The Taskforce is expected to present a final report to the full Commission in May 2007.

###

About the Commission for Higher Education -

The Commission for Higher Education is the state's coordinating agency for higher education. Its statutory purposes are to plan and to coordinate Indiana's state-supported system of postsecondary education, taking into account the plans and interests of independent colleges and universities; to define the educational missions of public colleges and universities; to review both operating budget and capital budget appropriation requests from public institutions; to approve or disapprove for public institutions the establishment of any new branches, campuses, extension centers, colleges or schools; to approve or disapprove for public institutions the offering of any additional associate, baccalaureate or graduate degree or certificate program of two semesters or more in duration; to review all programs of public institutions and make recommendations to the governing board of the institution, the Governor, and the General Assembly concerning the funding and the disposition of these programs; and, to review the budget requests of the State Student Assistance Commission. For additional information go to www.che.state.in.us.